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ABSTRACT

The Community Pride program is a 4-H activity in conservation and beautification. Instructions for selecting and carrying out a Community Pride activity are presented: planning, organizing, and doing the project. Suggestions for possible activities are offered, and instructions for reporting the activity to the county extension office are given. The basis for evaluating projects is described, and a copy of the report form is provided. "Save Space for Beauty," a poem by Woodbridge Metcalf, Extension Forester Emeritus, concludes the booklet. (KM)

Oregon Community Pride Activity

ED 075690

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4H Community Pride

P PLAN your work so that beauty and satisfaction will result.

R RENEW your faith in the potential beauty of your community.

I IMPROVE your community so that it will please the eye.

D DEVELOP and enhance the beauty that may be dormant.

E ENRICH what nature has provided.

"The conservation of our natural resources and their proper use, constitutes the fundamental problem of our national life."

-Theodore Roosevelt

"Without natural resources life itself is impossible. Upon them we depend for every material necessity, comfort, convenience and protection in our lives. Without abundant resources, prosperity is out of reach. Conservation is the open door to economic and political progress."

-Gifford Pinchot

SPONSOR

The Standard Oil Company of California in cooperation with the Oregon State University Extension Service provides recognition and incentives for the promotion of the Oregon 4-H Community Pride Program.

Community Pride

AN OREGON 4-H ACTIVITY RELATING TO BEAUTIFICATION AND CONSERVATION

It is frequently stated that many of the great things which happen are caused by young people. The 4-H Community Beautification Activity is an incentive for youth to demonstrate that they can cause great things to happen.

Every community has something which can be done to make it more attractive. Your challenge is to find these things in your community and organize to do them.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Oregon 4-H Community Pride Program seeks to:

* encourage youth to stimulate community groups to take an active part in community beautification and conservation.

* provide incentives to 4-H clubs to participate in community beautification and conservation activities.

* provide educational activities and programs that will effectively enhance the beauty of the state.

* contribute to the attractiveness of community surroundings including homes, towns, parks and the open countryside.

By participation in the program, 4-H members and others will:

* develop leadership talents through conservation action programs.

* appreciate social and economic values of natural resources.

* learn appropriate scientific practices.

* develop skills in cooperative work on a program important to the community, state and nation.

THE 4-H COMMUNITY PRIDE ACTIVITY

The Community Pride program is a 4-H activity in conservation and beautification. It may be conducted by an individual club or several clubs. The program is designed to be a meaningful activity for youth. Individual members may want to conduct some activities also.

Projects chosen need to be designed to meet the objectives of the program. Such projects may be a part of a larger community effort but the 4-H portion should be identifiable and reportable. In addition 4-H members may recruit and work with other youth groups on project.

CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT

PLANNING.

Here are several ideas to assist you in developing a 4-H Community Pride Activity.

* Take a good look at your neighborhood or town to see why people say--"What a lovely town!" or "What a dull, drab spot this is!" How would you rate your own community?

* Prepare a list of additions and improvements that need to be made in your community.

* Decide on a project that would most benefit the community, and one that the club is capable of doing in terms of time and money. Many projects cost very little but take the effort of all members--sometimes parents too.

* Select a project that will be fun for the club.

* Discuss how the members of your club might combine their efforts with other community organizations to accomplish some additions or improvements.

* Obtain appropriate clearance for the project. This may require approval from the Park Department, Highway Department, County Commissioners, etc.

* See if your community has a committee on community beautification, betterment, or conservation. If such a committee does exist, let them know about the 4-H club's enthusiasm for a project. The committee will be happy to give your club suggestions for a project and will explain ways of working with other groups.

ORGANIZING.

Each club(s) should develop its own idea into a plan for action.

* Describe the project.

* Contact resource people for advice--nurseryman, forester, county agent, and others.

* Identify the work members will do and who will do each job.

* List the materials needed for completion.

* Decide when each job will be completed and the date for completing the project.

* Provide for financing the project.

* Plan for publicity as the project progresses.

* Plan for maintaining the project if necessary.

* Plan for preparation of the club(s) report.

Some things are best done by several members working together as a committee. The committees your club forms will depend on:

-- the kind and size of your Community Pride Activity

-- number and age of members in your club

-- the ease with which members can get together

-- and resources in your community.

Members may be on more than one committee. The members will want to be busy. Some committees you may want to have are:

Investigation Committee

Learn what the community is already doing.
Arrange for permission to carry out your project when project is identified.

Program Committee

Find resource people to talk to the club.
Assemble general project information.
Arrange tours of similar projects

Supply Committee

Decide what tools and materials are needed.
Contact local organizations to borrow or purchase these.
Have tools and materials ready for use when needed.

Work Committee

Determine the number of people needed for each part of the project.
Assign members according to their interests and abilities.
Schedule each phase of the job.
Inform each participant of the schedule.
Supervise the work in progress.

Publicity Committee

Submit articles to the newspaper about the Community Pride program.
Develop radio and TV programs.
Write letters to civic leaders and service clubs telling about your program.
Present talks and demonstrations.
Report all club accomplishments.

Report Committee

Prepare and assemble report

DOING

Club leadership must show enthusiasm for the project and encourage everyone to do their part when it is needed to be done.

* Obtain project materials that are needed. Local businessmen can often contribute or loan materials or equipment.

* Let the community know what you are doing. Write articles for the newspaper or send information to your local radio and TV stations and include mention of program sponsor as well as any local sponsors. Before-and-after photographs, store displays, demonstrations, and presentations to service clubs or other 4-H clubs in your county should be prepared and used whenever possible.

* Follow up on your project so that the improvements you have made will continue to be a source of pride and satisfaction.

* Evaluate your club's effort. Are you pleased with the results? What Community Pride program would you like to complete next year?

* Build new enthusiasm and success on this year's accomplishments.

* Explore community resources that may be helpful to your program. Nurserymen, farm advisors, garden club members, forest service personnel, fish and wildlife services, city planners, carpenters, and painters all offer skills and knowledge. Bulletins from your county Extension office, as well as references from your local library will provide much valuable information.

* Find out if there are funds for assisting community development programs.

Suggestions for a 4-H Club Community Pride Activity

* Plant an arboretum in a park. (includes planting and/or labeling of different species of trees and shrubs--in cooperation with the park department.)

* Clean up and plant road side--cooperate with highway department.

* Conduct litter campaigns, including developing litter barrels.

* Plant shade trees along street.

* Improve local parks.

* Build and landscape outdoor fireplace in park or picnic area.

* Grow seedlings for landscape use.

* Clean vacant lots.

* Replant burns; investigate use of fire-resistant plants.

* Remove old cars and other trash to the dump.

* Plant ground cover to stabilize banks.

* Plant to stabilize waterways.

* Help with schoolground and/or church beautification program.

* Clean and plant area around historical places, monuments or buildings.

* Grow native plant displays for park or other public place. Some nurseries and seed houses have native plants or seed available.

* Clean, mark, and plant historical trails.

* Make an herbarium of dried native plants. Display and label.

* Plant a community ornamental garden.

* Establish welcome signs at city or county limits.

* Clean up or improve playgrounds.

* Make a shelter for small birds or animals.

* Offer time from the members in the club to help homeowners in the community improve the appearance of their property.

REPORTING YOUR ACTIVITY

Each 4-H club carrying out a Community Pride Activity should prepare a report that includes:

* the reasons for selection of each activity,
* a plan for the activity,
* a pictorial and verbal description of what was done,
* letters of appreciation, copies of news stories, and a listing of other publicity received,
* a statement from club members expressing their feelings toward their Community Pride program.

These written reports will be turned into the county Extension office in late summer.

4-H members attending the Community Pride conferences will be asked to tell the story of their program by skit, demonstrations, role playing, or talk. They will also be asked to prepare a display.

RECOGNITION

Any 4-H club which completed a Community Pride Activity should submit a report to the county Extension office.

Participating clubs. Recognition will be provided for each club participating in the program and submitting the report form.

County recognition. The county Extension office will provide for the selection of an outstanding program in the county. This club will receive an Award of Merit plaque.

OREGON 4-H COMMUNITY PRIDE CONFERENCE

A two-day conference will be held in the fall each year to recognize outstanding achievement in Oregon 4-H Community Pride Activity. The conference will feature an educational experience in ecology, community service, and Oregon pride. Meals and lodging will be furnished, but not transportation.

Each county may select four members 15 years of age or older to attend the 4-H Community Pride Conference. These are to be members who are active in the Community Pride Activity.

Basis for Evaluation

* The plan for the activity is clearly described. This should include not only what was planned, but why this program was selected.

* The record shows involvement of members and others in planning and executing the program.

* The activity was based on a need.

* There is a high degree of service and beauty to the program.

* The report is neat and presented in an organized way.

* The community was made aware of the program through news stories and talks given in person or on radio or on TV.

4-H COMMUNITY PRIDE

REPORT FORM

(Submit to County Extension Office)

DATE_____ COUNTY_____

COUNTY AGENT_____
(signature)

CLUB NAME_____

NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN CLUB_____. NUMBER PARTICIPATING IN PROJECT_____

LEADER'S NAME_____

LEADER'S ADDRESS_____
(Number & Street, Route & Box)

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP CODE_____

1. Describe need for your project(s). (situation which influenced your decision)

2. Outline the plans you made before you started the project.

3. What additional plans did you need to make?

4. Summarize what you did.

5. What other youth, service, or business groups, if any, participated in the project with you? (or you with them) Give names and what they did.

6. During what period did the action occur? (give dates)

7. If this activity is of more than one year duration, what are your plans for the next year(s)?

8. What did people say about your Community Pride Activity?

9. Describe any press, radio, or T.V. coverage.

10. Add pictures (before and after, if any) or clippings of your Community Pride Activity. Additional pages may be used.

SAVE SPACE FOR BEAUTY

Keep a little space for beauty
When you build the highways wide;
Plant some trees and shrubs beside them;
They'll be looked upon with pride.
Leave some groves with picnic tables
Here and there in friendly shade,
Where the hot and weary traveller
Can enjoy the sylvan glade.

Save a little space for beauty
Mid the city's roar and stress;
Here the parks with trees and footpaths
Will suggest the wilderness.
Give each home a floral setting;
Plant the streets with sturdy trees;
Civic pride and gracious living
Are achieved in ways like these.

Now with added millions coming
As the busy seasons roll,
There is need for pleasant vistas
As a solace for the soul.
Let each builder add some beauty,
And we all should do no less
Than to recognize the duty
That we banish ugliness.

Written by Woodbridge Metcalf
Extension Forester Emeritus

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